

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EA/TIMBS:MMEASTON:AR
APPROVED BY EA/TIMBS:REFRITTS
EA/EP - A. C. ALBRECHT
EB/IFD/OIA - MICHAEL P. BOERNER
L - LEE MARKS

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R 101856Z JUL 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 173236

STADIS////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EINV, SN

SUBJECT: U.S. SINGAPORE INVESTMENT TREATY

1. FOR PAST SEVERAL WEEKS DISCUSSIONS WITHIN USG ON PROPOSED US/SINGAPORE BILATERAL INVESTMENT TREATY HAVE INTENSIFIED, WITHOUT HOWEVER RESULTING IN AN APPROVED USG DRAFT AGREEMENT FOR PRESENTATION TO GOS. AS RESULT DISCUSSIONS HELD LAST WEEK IT WAS DETERMINED THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO SOLICIT ON INFORMAL BASIS FROM SINGAPOREAN EMBASSY A COPY OF THE GOS DRAFT AGREEMENT PROPOSAL PREVIOUSLY DEVELOPED TO DETERMINE GOS VIEWS AND ALSO TO HOLD INFORMAL PRE-NEGOTIATION DISCUSSION WITH SINGAPORE ON ELEMENTS IN A TREATY.

2. ON JULY 7 DEPT REPS FROM EA AND EB HELD INFORMAL
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DISCUSSIONS WITH SINGAPORE EMBASSY REP CHANDRA INFORMING HIM THAT USG DID NOT HAVE DRAFT FOR TRANSMISSION TO GOS AT THIS TIME, BUT THAT WE WOULD FIND IT USEFUL TO HAVE, ON INFORMAL BASIS, COPY OF PROPOSED SINGAPORE DRAFT. IT WAS EMPHASIZED THAT THIS WOULD BE IN CONTEXT OF INFORMAL PRE-NEGOTIATION EXCHANGE AND THAT THE USG WOULD NOT VIEW SINGAPORE DRAFT AS BEING "TABLED", BUT THAT IT

HOPEFULLY WOULD SERVE TO BRING INTO BETTER FOCUS OUR OWN THINKING RE ISSUES UNDER CONSIDERATION. IT SHOULD

BE NOTED THAT SINGAPORE EMBASSY HAD PREVIOUSLY INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO PRESENT ITS DRAFT IN ANTICIPATION THAT ONE WOULD SOON BE FORTHCOMING FROM USG. US REPS INDICATED THAT UPON COMPLETION OF REVIEW OF SINGAPORE DRAFT AND ADDITIONAL CONSULTATIONS WITHIN USG WE WOULD HOPE TO BE ABLE TO MOVE TOWARD INFORMAL PRE-NEGOTIATION EXCHANGE OF VIEWS TO DELINEATE AREAS OF AGREEMENT AND DEFINE AREAS (IF ANY) WHERE DIVERGENCE OF APPROACH EXISTED.

3. CHANDRA AGREED TO FORWARD OUR REQUEST FOR GOS DRAFT AND INDICATED HE HOPED TO PROVIDE RESPONSE WITHIN WEEK. HE QUERIED WHETHER WE WOULD BE IN POSITION TO ENTER INTO PRE-NEGOTIATION TALKS EITHER HERE OR IN SINGAPORE IN PERIOD AROUND AUGUST ASEAN-US MINISTERIAL MEETING AND WONDERED WHETHER SINGAPORE DELEGATION SHOULD COME TO WASHINGTON AT THAT TIME. US REPS INDICATED THAT WE COULD ENVISION INFORMAL PRE-NEGOTIATION TALKS WITH SINGAPORE EMBASSY AND US OFFICE DIRECTOR LEVEL REPS HERE IN WASHINGTON BY AUGUST, BUT DOUBTED THAT USG WOULD BE PREPARED FOR FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS BY THAT DATE. VANCE

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